

Final Report

Stove Project

Zhongmai Village Primary School
Zaduo County
Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture
Qinghai Province
PR China

Summary

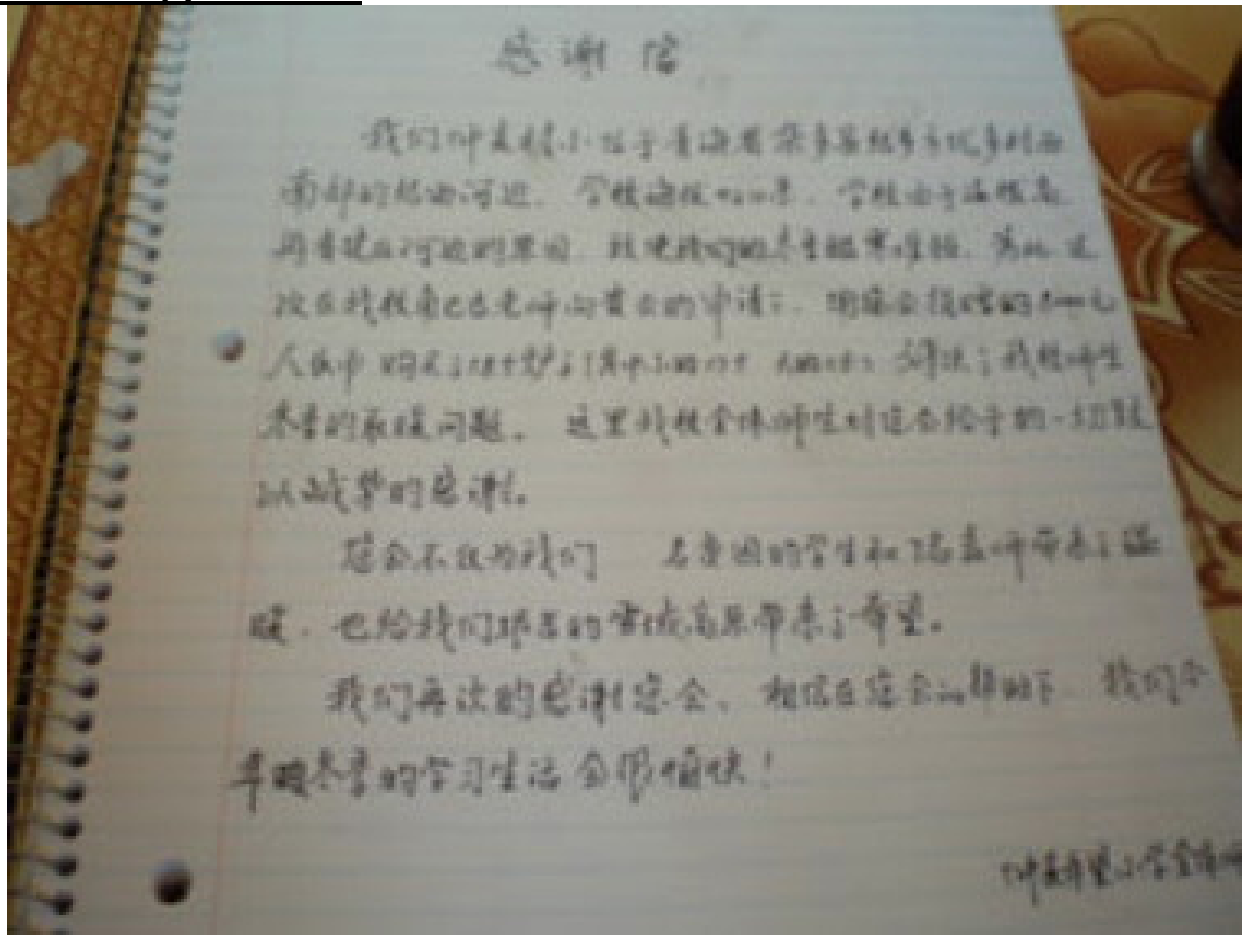
What? 18 Stoves for students of Zhongmai Primary School.

by

Ms. Jyoboji (Naomi)

Sunday, November 25, 2007

Letter of Appreciation



Translation

We are delighted to report to you the successful completion of the stove project. Our school is located near a river in Zhongmai Village, Jieduo Township, Zaduo County, Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province, PR China. The altitude of the school is 4,210 meters above sea level. It is very cold due to the high altitude and our location near the river. Our English teacher, Ms. Jyobaji, applied for this project and received 8,000 RMB from kind donors. Jyobaji bought 18 stoves (17 small stoves and 1 big stove). This solved our target problem. All of us, the teachers and students of Zhongmai School, are grateful for what you have done for us. Thank you very much. You have not only helped 150 students with the problem of coldness, you have also inspired the entire school. We want to say thank you again. I am sure we can have a better life this winter.

Mr. Tsering Nima, Head Administrator
Zhongmai Village Primary School
2007-10-22

Photos of Project implementation



Purchasing the stoves.



Receipt for purchase and transportation.



Loading the stoves for transport to the school.



As the truck arrives, all the students gather around enthusiastically.



The project manager unloading the stoves with the students.



Students check the stoves and prepare to take them to the classrooms.



The big stove in the dining room now allows students to gather here and cook tea for themselves.



Project manager Jyobaji and all the students. The metal boxes and little teapots were bought by school administrator to supplement the project.



Three piles of yak dung fuel prepared for the stove project. The school also built a small storeroom for yak dung to protect it from the elements.



This stove is in the school's meeting room. This room was unusable because of the cold, but now is a welcoming place for student-teacher meetings, parent-teacher conferences. and committee meetings.



The sixth grade students lighting the stove.

Interview with Beneficiaries:

Jyoboji: What do you think these stoves can do for the school?

Bema: These stoves are definitely of benefit and can increase the standard of education. Before we didn't have any stoves, either in the classroom or in the dormitory rooms. We felt very cold, and could not concentrate on our studies. At night, we couldn't sleep and coldness always drew us back from our nice dreams. Now, I am not afraid of cold weather anymore.

Jyoboji: Do you like to wash?

Bema: Yes. Before I couldn't wash my face in the morning or my feet at night. I couldn't wash anything. Now, English Teacher has helped us to buy stoves for my dormitory room and the school bought teapots for each stove. So we can keep clean all the time. We won't get much sickness from being dirty.

Jyoboji: What are you going to burn in the stoves?

Gebo (the school headmaster): Jyoboji said funds are received, so for two days, all the students collected yak dung for fuel. We have three big piles of yak dung near the school. It will be plenty for the long winter for all the students.

Jyoboji: Maybe the teachers will take the new stoves to their rooms and give their old ones to students? Can you give me any assurances about stopping this kind of thing from happening?

Gabao (school headmaster): I already told them they cannot take any of the new stoves from the students. They agreed with me and I believe they wouldn't do such a thing. Also, the school will try our best to keep our eye on this and see that the stoves are used properly. In summer, we will put all of them in storage. Nobody will touch them except the students.

Jyoboji: Are you happy to have a big stove in student's dining room?

Zhongxian (cook): Of course. Before we didn't have stoves in the students' dining room. In the winter, when they were eating their meals, they got very cold so all the students came into the kitchen. The kitchen is too small for that number of students. Sometimes they were very noisy and threw garbage everywhere. We needed to clean the kitchen constantly. Now, they have a big stove in the dining room with teapots. The students can cook tea for themselves while lighting the stoves. It lightens our burden a lot.

Jyoboji: What do you want to say for the donors?

Tsering Nima (school administrator): Thanks for giving us a chance to thank donors. "Thanks a lot." Before I wanted to buy stoves for students, but I have to pay everything for this school, so we don't have that much money. Now, the donor gave us money, we bought the best stoves. I am sure we can use them for at least 15 years. I have already instructed everyone how to protect the stoves and everyone understands that. We will use the stoves properly, and improve ourselves here.

Final Report Details

Project title: Stove Project for Zhongmai Village Primary School

Implementation Team:

Ms. Jyoboji (English teacher and project manager), Mr. Tsering Nima (school administrator), Gabao (school headmaster), Ms. Gang-ga, Ms. Chu-ji, and Ms. Dungtsul (three female teachers).

Contact Person: Dr .Kevin Stuart

Funds Received: 8,000RMB, received on October 7, 2007.

Project Activities:

1. October 7, 2007: received 8,000RMB donation and informed the school of the news.
2. October 12, 2007: Discussed our needs in great detail with store manager and received his trustworthy promises and assurances.
3. October 13, 2007: The store did not have all the stoves we needed in stock; the store manager went to Xining City and purchased the remaining stoves.
4. October 27, 2007: Completed the purchase of the 18 stoves and transported the stoves to the school.
5. October 28, 2007: Took pictures of the project and interviewed the recipients.
6. November 3, 2007: Wrote the final report.
7. November 5, 2007: Final report sent with photos and receipts.

Project Goals Achieved:

To install 18 stoves to heat classrooms and student dormitories, so that:

1. All the students have heat in their classroom and dormitories, freeing their attention from the cold so they learn their subjects better without suffering from being cold.
2. The students will no longer catch cold as often because they are now able to go to the dormitory rooms and the classroom to warm up.
3. Teachers will buy fewer medicines for the students. They will now be able to use their money to buy other items for the students.
4. They can now have classes on time, all the time, without getting cold in wintertime. Students and teachers will be less stressed and have improved relationships; the school will now gain respect and compliments from the local people. Householders will now be more willing to send their children to this school without as many doubts as before.
5. The school has given one big teapot to each dorm room so students will regularly wash their face and feet in warm water in winter. They will now be cleaner and healthier.

Project Finances:

Item	Donor Contribution RMB	Local Contribution RMB	Total RMB
17 stoves	6,800	0	6,800
1 big stove	1,200	50	1,250
Transportation	0	550	550
Total	8,000	600	8,600

Difficulties and Lessons Learned

Difficulties:

This semester the student population had grown and we had added a new teacher. Unfortunately, we only had the 8,000RMB requested in the proposal. Therefore, we decided not to buy any stoves for the teachers because they have their salaries and can buy stoves for themselves. Instead we bought stoves for the students' dorm rooms, the teacher's office, the school meeting room, and one big stove for the students' dining room. The teachers agreed to this without becoming upset. This was a little stressful but it ended well.

In this rural area, there is no electricity or access to the Internet. I needed a camera and a computer for the final report. I had heard of people who own cameras and asked to borrow them, but most refused because, they said, I am a girl and they think I cannot use a camera properly. At last a monk brought his camera, but he used it; I suggested what he photograph. I needed to type the final report on a computer and for this I needed to travel to Zadu County Town, 60 kilometers from the school, which takes 4 hours because the road is horrible. As I type, my two hands are very cold.

Lessons Learned

The first lesson was that student numbers fluctuate, and if the proposal is not funded within 5 months this can make it difficult for us to implement the project exactly as planned in the original proposal.

The second lesson is that there can always be flexibility if the project manager makes everything clear and talks to people along the way about what is happening and why, in which case there is no need for confusion. For example, all the teachers wanted stoves for themselves. I discussed this with the school administrator and school headmaster and the solution was agreed upon and everyone's disagreements were heard. This allowed all issues to be resolved without any major conflict. People are more satisfied if they feel you listen to them. People can accept a decision if there is really no other way and the facts are explained clearly.